IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:)
VOYER ET AL.)
)
Serial No. **NOT YET ASSIGNED**)
)
Filing Date: **HEREWITH**)
)
For: **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR**)
FILTERING DATA CONCERNING AN)
ELECTRONIC PROGRAM GUIDE FOR)
A TELEVISION RECEIVER)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Director, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to the calculation of fees and examination of
the present application, please enter the amendments and
remarks set out below.

In the Drawings:

Submitted herewith is a request for a proposed
drawing modification as indicated in red ink to label various
blocks in FIG. 1.

In the Claims:

Please cancel Claims 1 to 8.

Please add new Claims 9 to 25.

9. A method of filtering data for an electronic
program guide (EPG) in a television receiver and sent in the

form of a summary followed by contents, the summary indicating for each channel the code of the channel and identification numbers of data blocks sent with the contents, the television receiver comprising a device for searching television channels and storing a list of codes for all or some of the channels received by the television receiver to a first memory, the method comprising:

(I) obtaining, from the summary, a modified summary containing only the data of the summary concerning all or some of the channels received by the television receiver as identified in the first memory, and storing the modified summary in a second memory; and

(II) recording only data blocks of the contents of the guide in a third memory when they correspond to identification numbers of the modified summary contained in the second memory.

10. The method according to Claim 9, wherein obtaining the modified summary comprises:

(a) recording the summary or a part thereof in a buffer memory, at each field flyback;

(b) comparing each code of the summary with the list of codes contained in the first memory; and

(c) transferring codes and identification numbers of associated data blocks into the second memory based upon the comparison to create the modified summary.

11. A method according to Claim 10, wherein comparing each code comprises:

reading each code of the summary in the buffer memory; and

comparing each code with the list of codes contained in the first memory.

12. A method according to Claim 9, wherein recording data blocks of the contents of the guide in the third memory comprises:

(e) recording at least one data block of the contents and its identification number in the buffer memory;

(f) comparing the identification number of the data block recorded in the buffer memory with the identification numbers recorded in the second memory; and

(g) transferring the data block, its identification number and the corresponding code into the third memory based upon the comparison.

13. A method according to Claim 12, wherein comparing the identification number comprises:

reading the identification number of the data block contained in the buffer memory; and

comparing the identification number with the identification numbers of the modified summary recorded in the second memory.

14. A method according to Claim 12, wherein the identification numbers associated to each code correspond to identification numbers of first and last identification numbers of a series of data blocks allocated to a channel; and

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wherein comparing the identification numbers comprises
comparing the identification number of the received data block
with each identification number of the series of data blocks
allocated to a channel.

15. A method of filtering electronic program guide
(EPG) data in a television receiver, the EPG data including a
summary followed by contents, the summary indicating the code
for each channel and identification numbers of data blocks of
the contents, the method comprising:

searching television channels and storing codes for
at least some of the channels received by the television
receiver to a first memory;

generating, from the summary, a modified summary
containing only the codes and identification numbers of the
channels identified in the first memory;

storing the modified summary in a second memory; and

recording data blocks of the contents of the EPG
data in a third memory when they correspond to identification
numbers of the modified summary contained in the second
memory.

16. The method according to Claim 15, wherein
generating the modified summary comprises:

recording at least part of the summary in a buffer
memory;

comparing each code of the summary with the codes
contained in the first memory; and

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transferring codes and identification numbers of associated data blocks into the second memory based upon the comparison.

17. A method according to Claim 16, wherein comparing each code comprises:

reading each code of the summary in the buffer memory; and

comparing each code with the codes contained in the first memory.

18. A method according to Claim 15, wherein recording data blocks in the third memory comprises:

recording at least one data block of the contents and its identification number in the buffer memory;

comparing the identification number of the data block recorded in the buffer memory with the identification numbers recorded in the second memory; and

transferring the data block, its identification number and the corresponding code into the third memory based upon the comparison.

19. A method according to Claim 18, wherein comparing the identification number comprises:

reading the identification number of the data block contained in the buffer memory; and

comparing the identification number with the identification numbers of the modified summary recorded in the second memory.

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20. A device for filtering electronic program guide (EPG) data in a television receiver, the EPG data including a summary followed by contents, the summary indicating the code for each channel and identification numbers of data blocks of the contents, the device comprising:

a first memory;

a channel detection device for automatically searching channels and storing a list of codes of at least some of the channels received by the television receiver in the first memory;

a buffer memory for storing at least one data block of the contents and its identification number received during a field flyback of the television image;

a second memory for storing a modified summary;

a third memory for recording, via the buffer memory, the EPG data;

a display for displaying television images and EPG data;

a microcontroller for controlling the memories;

first comparison means for comparing each code of the summary with the list of codes recorded in the first memory;

first recording means, controlled by the first comparison means, for recording the modified summary containing only the codes and identification numbers of the channels identified in the first memory, in a second memory;

second comparison means for comparing the identification number of the data block recorded in the buffer

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memory with the identification numbers recorded in the second memory;

second recording means, controlled by the second comparison means, for recording data blocks of the contents of the EPG guide data in a third memory when they correspond to identification numbers of the modified summary contained in the second memory.

21. A device according to Claim 20, further comprising selection means for permitting a user to select the channels for which the codes are stored in the first memory.

22. A device for filtering electronic program guide (EPG) data in a television receiver, the EPG data including a summary followed by contents, the summary indicating the code for each channel and identification numbers of data blocks of the contents, the device comprising:

a buffer memory for storing at least one data block of the contents and its identification number;

a first memory;

a channel detection device for searching television channels and storing codes for at least some of the channels received by the television receiver in the first memory;

a first comparison unit for comparing each code of the summary with the codes recorded in the first memory;

a second memory for storing a modified summary containing only the codes and identification numbers of the channels identified in the first memory; and

a second comparison unit for comparing the identification number of the data block recorded in the buffer memory with the identification numbers recorded in the second memory; and

a third memory for storing data blocks of the contents of the EPG guide data when they correspond to identification numbers of the modified summary contained in the second memory.

23. A device according to Claim 21, further comprising a display for displaying television images and EPG data stored in the third memory.

24. A device according to Claim 21, further comprising a microcontroller for controlling the memories and the comparison units.

25. A device according to Claim 21, further comprising a selection unit for permitting a user to select the channels for which the codes are stored in the first memory.

REMARKS

It is believed that all of the claims are patentable over the prior art. For better readability and the Examiner's convenience, the newly submitted claims differ from the translated counterpart claims which are being canceled. The newly submitted claims do not represent changes or amendments that narrow the claim scope for any reason related to the

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statutory requirements for patentability. Accordingly, after

the Examiner completes a thorough examination, a Notice of

Allowance is respectfully requested in due course. If any

minor informalities need to be addressed, the Examiner is

encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney at the

telephone number below.

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Respectfully submitted,

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SUBMISSION OF PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS TO DRAWINGS

Director, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith is a request for a proposed drawing modification as indicated in red ink to label various blocks in FIG. 1. No new matter is being added.

Respectfully submitted,

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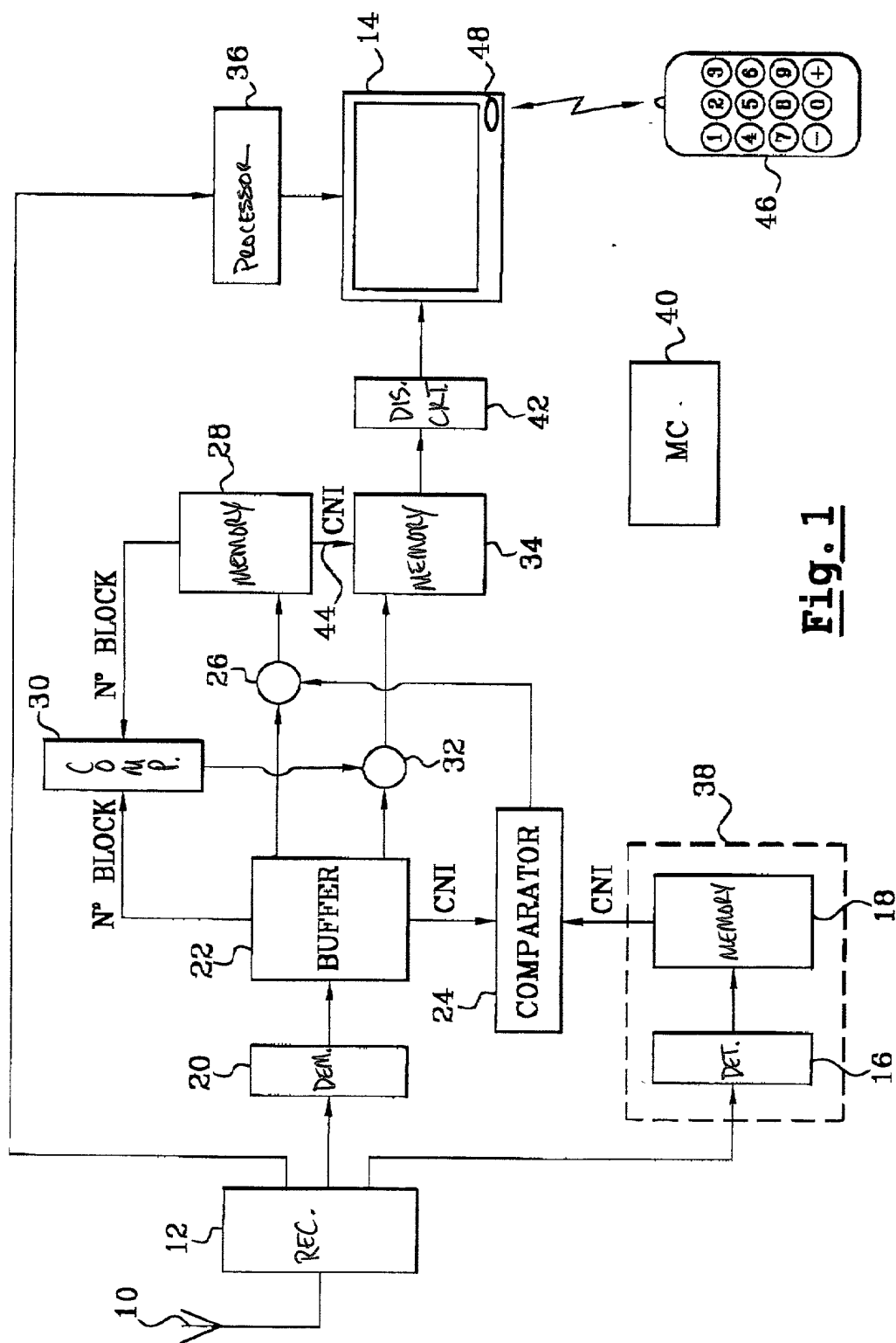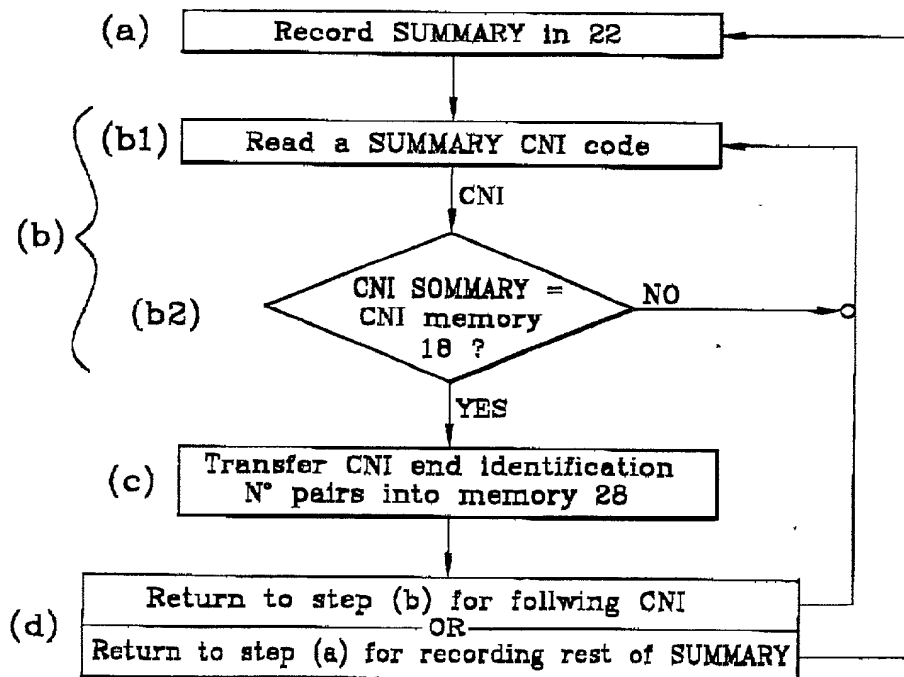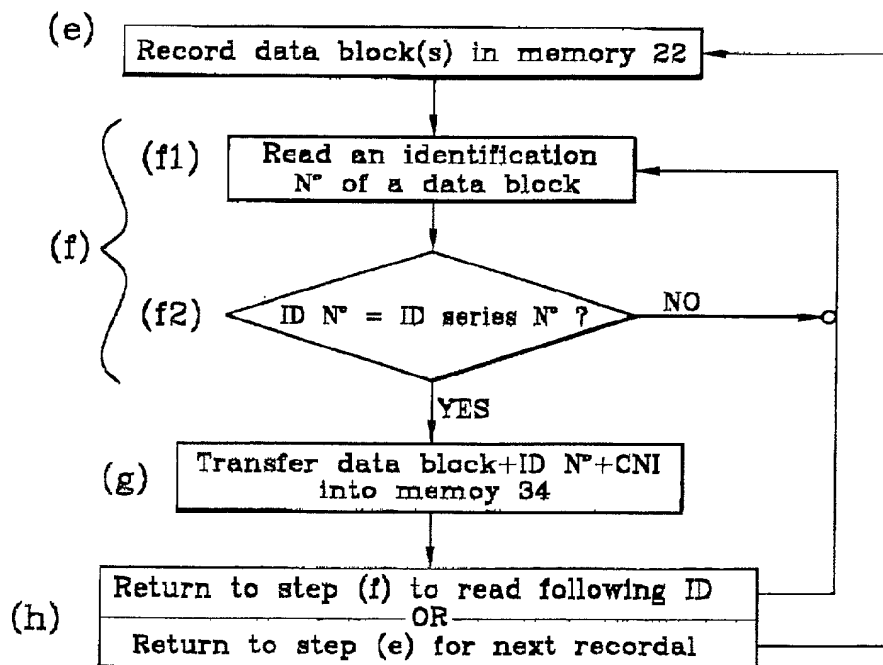Orlando, Florida 32802
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Attorney for Applicants

Fig. 1

(a) | Record SUMMARY in 22 |

(b) {
  (b1) | Read a SUMMARY CNI code |

  |CNI

  (b2) CNI SOMMARY = CNI memory 18 ?   NO
}

YES

(c) | Transfer CNI end identification N° pairs into memory 28 |

(d) | Return to step (b) for follwing CNI |
    | ─────OR───── |
    | Return to step (a) for recording rest of SUMMARY |

Fig. 2

(e) | Record data block(s) in memory 22 |

(f) {
  (f1) | Read an identification N° of a data block |

  (f2) ID N° = ID series N° ?   NO
}

YES

(g) | Transfer data block+ID N°+CNI into memoy 34 |

(h) | Return to step (f) to read following ID |
    | ─────OR───── |
    | Return to step (e) for next recordal |

Fig. 3